

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (MCHAB)**  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2005**  
**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Terrence McGaw, MD, Vice-Chairperson  
Senator Maggie Carlton  
Jeffrey Wrightson, MD  
Beverly Neyland, MD  
Michelle Kling, RN, MS  
T.J. (Terri) Rosenberg  
Assemblywoman Genie Ohrenschall  
Bonnie Sorenson, RN  
Tyree Davis, DDS

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Suzanne Magleby, MSW  
Raquel Knecht, MA

**NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT**

Alex Haartz, Administrator, Nevada State Health Division (NSHD)  
Richard Whitley, Deputy Administrator, Nevada State Health Division (NSHD)  
Deborah McBride, Chief, Bureau of Community Health Services (BCHS)  
Bob Salcido, Program Manager, BCHS  
Judith Wright, Chief, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)  
Cynthia Huth, MSN, CNM, Health Program Specialist 2, Perinatal Nurse Consultant, BFHS  
Debra Wagler, Health Program Specialist 1, Real Choice Coordinator, BFHS  
Prasanjit Chakma, Health Program Specialist 1, Birth Defects Registry, BFHS  
Tami Terstegee, Administrative Assistant 4, BFHS  
Tasha Gardner, Administrative Assistant 1, BFHS

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Phil Nowak, Chief, Medicaid Managed Care and Nevada ✓ Check Up, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)  
Linda Anderson, Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office  
Veronica Movate-Nichols, Program Manager, Clark County Health District (CCHD)  
Robbin Palmer, Ph.D., Genetics Counselor  
Leone Leftsome, Deputy Administrator of Medical Services, Economic Opportunity Board  
Jack Kim, Sierra Health Services  
Janice Smith, Director, North Vista Hospital  
Kelly Simorison, Health Plan of Nevada

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Terrence McGaw called to order the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB) meeting at **9:05 a.m.** videoconferenced at the Grant Sawyer Building, Las Vegas, and the Kinkead Building. This was a public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS), Carson City; Kinkead Building, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno; Clark County Health District (CCHD), Las Vegas; Grant Sawyer

State Office Building, Las Vegas; and the Nevada State Health Division website at [www.health2k.state.nv.us](http://www.health2k.state.nv.us).

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2004.**

Dr. McGaw stated on page four, second paragraph, the last sentence should state Dr. McGaw also noted that there are three Clark County School Board members identified as champions of the Clark County Sex Education Advisory Committee. Dr. Beverly Neyland motioned to approve the minutes with changes. Dr. Tyree Davis seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

#### **HEALTH DIVISION REPORT**

Tabled

#### **UPDATE ON MEDICAID MANAGED CARE AND NEVADA ✓ CHECK UP INCLUDING A REPORT ON TUBAL LIGATIONS DONE SINCE THE HMOS TOOK OVER.**

Mr. Nowak stated the enrollment of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Health Assistance Program (CHAP) have reached a plateau nationwide, which seems unusual due to population growth. Nevada Check ✓ Up has not reached a plateau and is increasing in enrollment. By September 1, 2005, Nevada Check ✓ Up will have reached 27,840, mostly concentrated in urban areas within the state.

Mr. Nowak mentioned a pent up demand of access to dental care in Clark County resulted in building a better relationship with the University of Nevada UNSOM, School of Dentistry. Starting July and August 2005, a commercial network of community dentists opened up, which added about 150 dentists to the Medicaid network. Virtually every Dentist had set up an appointment and treated a Medicaid recipient.

Mr. Nowak stated there was a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Medicaid contracted managed care plans. The current contract was put in place in 2002 for a term of three years. A revision gave an extension ending June 30, 2006. Through purchasing, a mandatory bidding conference was conducted September 2005, had five plans, two incumbent plans plus three others. Bidders must submit their proposal package by October 24, 2005. By the end of January 2006, there should be an outcome in place with implementation in July 2006. Mr. Nowak briefly noted one personnel item. Betsy Ayalo who had previously been in charge of the waiver program had been appointed the new Nevada Check ✓ Up Chief.

Michelle Kling briefly commended and thanked Medicaid for promptly helping Hurricane Katrina Relief victims. Ms. Kling also asked if the providers change will clients have some assistance to help find them another. Mr. Nowak responded absolutely, it is part of the enrollment process.

Mr. Nowak spoke about the Tubal Litigations, which fall in a category of a family planning procedure making the recipient over 21 years old. For managed care to pay, no prior authorization is required, and it is a physician/patient decision subject to the general requirements Medicaid has in place.

Mr. Nowak stated three prior complete years of data on tubal ligations was collected, including part of 2005, showing 628 procedures performed. The projected number including the completed 2005 year is 1,075. He noted a significant portion of the procedures are performed in the context of delivery. The number of Medicaid births occurring during that period estimated about 10,000

showing there is not a great deal of variation. The cost of the procedures averages out to about \$1,074 for reimbursement, however modifiers can be added depending on the particular attributes of the patient. Mr. Nowak also mentioned there was a study in 2001 based on a national benchmark. The number reported an average annual rate of 11.5 per 1,000, divided approximately half post partum, and half interval. Dr. Jeffrey Wrightson asked about rates for Cesarean Sections versus Laproscopic. It was noted the data is not available.

**REPORT ON THE STATUS OF CHILDREN'S IMUNIZATIONS IN NEVADA WHICH RECENTLY RATED NEVADA 50<sup>th</sup> IN THE NATION.**

Bob Salcido gave a presentation regarding data on immunizations for Nevada. Even though Nevada's immunization levels have increased they still have not been high enough. Vaccine preventable diseases are at an all time low, and coverage rates are at an all time high. Nevada has gone from 34.7% coverage to 78.4%. Statewide programs are being conducted to address the issue. Mr. Salcido also noted a new vaccine called TDap 4 (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis) had been introduced and will begin being used.

Deborah McBride stated strategies are working with existing community partners, identifying new resources and developing new partners. A media campaign is being developed to remind parents to make sure their children get immunized. Also information will be shared from the registry to locate children who need to have additional immunization.

Mr. Salcido stated Connecticut had been the number one state for three years in a row and information had been obtained to possibly work with them. Community outreach is a key strategy to raise immunization rates. Connecticut had several procedures including state regulations which require pediatricians and family practices to report immunizations, a registry populated by birth, a monthly download of Medicaid kids 0-3 to follow up on, Health Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) reports to participating plans, and reminder calls to parents to have their children's vaccination completed. Also they provide a school assessment form to providers showing how to use the registry. Connecticut had 17 community immunization sites receiving lists from the state showing children who are not up to date. Staff then go out and supply assessments at the provider's offices, and provide registry training and follow-up.

Dr. Beverly Neyland noted in the next year 5 new immunizations are scheduled to come out and asked who will be paying for them. Mr. Salcido noted there already is a shortage in vaccines up to about 2007. The Federal Government has given 62% of the funding through Vaccines for Children (VFC) population providing coverage for an 11- year core. If more vaccine needs to be provided the state will have to come up with the funding. Bonnie Sorenson mentioned state funding is level and with the population growth it will be difficult to supply outreach with no extra funding. How will the state put pressure on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to allocate more funding to meet the programs needs. Alex Haartz mentioned the State Health Division (SHD) is going to be undertaking a strategic planning process to look at key public health indicators for Nevada. Child immunizations is already been identified as a priority and the state will be seeking money through the general fund.

Dr. McGaw noted the Community Health Nurses Clinic is not as populated as it used to be and since community outreach is so important, maybe there should be more nurses available. Mr. Salcido stated he had focus groups talking about immunizations in the rural areas. Dr. McGaw noted, as said before some of the children are already on Medicaid and have providers. If they are already in the system, how can they be overlooked for immunizations? Mr. Salcido responded they would like to get a list of Medicaid children by providers and when they are completing their VFC visits, a quick assessment will be done for the Medicaid children to see if

they are up to date or not or even have gone to their provider. Ms. Sorenson stated she had gone out with staff to provider's offices and had noticed a lot of providers over estimate the amount of people who need immunizations and are astonished at how low the needs are when an audit is viewed. Also there is a major turnover and the state spends so much time training provider's staff but in a week or month they have new employees and the state has to start over. Dr. Neyland also noted many providers' computer databases are not compatible with the state's databases, and to get some kind of integration would be good but that requires a large portion of money. It was suggested to have access to the registry available through Internet.

Senator Maggie Carlton asked if there was any way of knowing a significant number of how many of the children are on Medicaid but their parents are not causing an issue of not having the parents documented. Dr. Neyland stated there is a large number with the Hispanic population. Many parents go to Mexico to receive immunizations but they have no records.

### **HEALTH DIVISION REPORT**

Mr. Haartz stated the 2005 legislation had 20 bills addressed to the SHD, dealing mostly with regulation, involving patient safety, and consumer safety. The SHD has been intensively working on preparing for the Hurricane Katrina evacuees. Preparations are to make sure systems are in place so when the evacuees arrive any communicable disease or public issues were identified and addressed ranging from immunization to mental health and substance abuse. The WIC program has an active role in making sure evacuees who were WIC eligible had benefits. Also a link on the Medicaid website gives Medicaid providers direct guidance on treating evacuees. Even though no direct evacuees were brought to Nevada many have self evacuated from other states coming to this area, estimate at about 2,000; the majority are all going to Clark County.

Mr. Haartz stated the legislature encouraged the SHD to request more funding to address specific public health indicators at the next legislative session. The SHD is developing a strategic planning process to address short and long term issues. These strategies will be built into the Agency Requested Budget and the expectation is they should survive in some form. Also noted was the governor's recommended budget which will be put before the legislature to improve the overall indicators including access to prenatal care, pregnancy, childhood immunizations, etc. The Board has an opportunity and is encouraged to help provide some input on which indicators need to be addressed, either directly to Administration, through Judith Wright, or making it an agenda item for upcoming meetings. The agency does not have to submit a request until August, 2006.

Mr. Haartz also noted there are new revisions on the website, this including HIV/AIDS epidemiological profiling, and the Nevada Personal Health Choices, showing what Nevadans are seeking hospital care for through 2002-2004. Ms. Sorenson commended Mr. Haartz on the strategic plan and noted she had just hired a new firm to write a strategic plan and suggested to have a discussion to make everything in sync. Mr. Haartz stated absolutely, however, the plan is to start work internally and then begin to work with outside partners.

### **BOARD DISCUSSION OF CHILDREN'S IMMUNIZATION IN NEVADA AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED INCLUDING A POTENTIAL BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE AND DIRECTION TO STAFF.**

Ms. Kling stated she had a phone call from Ms. Wright to get together and discuss some ideas, such as partnering with WIC on the smart card and immunization tracking. Ms. Kling noted maybe the first steps are meeting with Ms. Wright Mr. Salcido, and Ms. Sorenson to develop some strategies. It was discussed and the subcommittee to improve immunization rates in Nevada will include Ms. Wright, Mr. Salcido, Ms. Sorenson, Ms. Kling, Senator Carlton, and

Assemblywoman Genie Ohrenshall. Ms. Ohrenshall motioned to approve, Dr. Davis seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**UPDATE ON LEGISLATION FROM THE 2005 LEGISLATURE AS IT RELATES TO MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH.**

Ms. Wright briefly re-explained the Assembly Bills discussed at the last meeting.

**APPOINTMENT OF PATRICIA LEE TO THE PERINATAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION (PSAP) SUBCOMMITTEE.**

It was noted Patricia Lee has a lot of energy and it is good to have different view points. Ms. Ohrenshall motioned to approve, Ms. Kling seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**REPORT FROM THE PSAP SUBCOMMITTEE ON FASD PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR.**

Cynthia Huth stated Barry Lovgren had been out of the office for about 8 weeks, and will not be returning. The Perinatal Substance Abuse (PSAP) Subcommittee had requested to have town-hall meetings. Those meetings are to provide the public opportunity to give testimony to a panel of people regarding the barriers and problems associated with having a child with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) or are providing care for children with FASD. The PSAP Subcommittee had been working with the Centers for Excellence (CFE) who agreed to send out one of their consultants. The meetings will be held January 17, 2006, in Las Vegas at the Family Resource Center at University Medical Center, and January 23, 2006, in Reno at the South Meadows Parkway Library. The panel will consist of people from the judicial system, legislative system, Department of Correction, and/or department heads. Ms. Huth stated she had made templates of the brochures which will be sent out to potential speakers. After the town-hall meetings, a full report will be developed to explain what was discussed, what barriers, and other issues were identified, what is going well, as far as access to care, and what possible solutions or action need to take place. After completion of the report, the long term goal is to have a full FASD State Plan and hopefully coordinate with other agencies. Once the FASD State Plan is in place, it is hoped to develop a statewide needs assessment. Ms. Huth stated she had met with Maria Canfield and some of her staff from the Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Abuse (BADA) because it was discussed at the last PSAP meeting there should be more emphasis on treatment for FASD. It was noted BADA's next needs assessment will begin January 2006, and Ms. Huth suggested PSAP and BADA develop it together. Ms. Huth stated this should be completed by September 2006. Ms. Huth also reported in Clark County FASD prevention is displayed on the sides of buses.

**BOARD DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLY AMENDING BOARD BY-LAWS TO MOVE THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN TO THE SECOND MEETING OF THE BIENNIUM**

T.J. Rosenberg motioned to accept a change in 6.1.1 to move Board elections to the second meeting of a biennium, Dr. McGaw seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Tabled

**BOARD DISCUSSION OF STAFF REPORTS**

Ms. Wright mentioned the Maternal & Child Health Campaign was approved for a four year contract. In the Oral Health Report, the Fluoridation Consultant contract position has been approved to be a FTE. Chris Forsch had also has been asked to run for president for the American Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors. Regarding Maternal and Child

Health, Ms. Kling noted she did contact her Governor's Youth Advisory Board (GYAC) mentee and never heard back. Prasanjit Chakma the Newborn Birth Defects Registry (NBDR) Coordinator introduced himself and explained he had a public health career all his life. He was a Bangladesh physician, and had a United Kingdom (UK) Masters of Public Health (MPH). He then moved to the United States and had to go back to school and start over. Mr. Chakma noted he would like to match Nevada's Registry with other state programs and by the end of November would like to update all data then start a strategic plan. Ms. Wright mentioned the Real Choice System Change (RCSC) now has people hired in Elko, Reno, and Las Vegas who are implementing projects.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT & DISCUSSION**

The next meeting will be December 9, 2005, videoconferenced.

Meeting adjourned **12:55 p.m.**